

## Sydney Christian Bushwalkers—Leaders Policy

## **Committee Duty of Care**

- Before the committee gives approval for a member (aged 18 years or more) to lead an outdoor activity or type of outdoor activity (clause 49) the committee must be satisfied that the member:
  - a. Is familiar with the club's risk management policies and willing to abide by the same
  - b. Has suitable map reading skills for the type of activities they plan to lead
  - c. Has basic first aid skills and preferably holds an appropriate first aid certificate (senior, advanced or remote area)
  - d. Is familiar with confederation's minimal impact bushwalking code and willing to encourage activity participants to abide by the code
- Before the committee gives approval for a member (aged 18 years or more) to lead one or more social activities the committee must be satisfied that the member is willing to lead such activities in a manner which shows proper duty of care towards participating members and visitors.

## Leading children on activities

• An activity leader must sign a Prohibited Employment Declaration (PED) form if they intend to lead activities (whether outdoor or social) and permit persons under 18 years to participate. Only Accredited Leaders will be permitted to lead activities in which persons under 18 are participating.

## **Procedure for Leader Accreditation**

- All members wishing to become leaders should contact a committee member to make a verbal or written application and to discuss their qualifications and experience to lead specific types of activities for Sydney Christian Bushwalkers.
- The committee will consider the application for leadership after contacting any referees the member can provide, although it is not essential to provide references for leading the lower grade activities.
- The committee will vote on whether to accept the application and may then grant Provisional Leader status for the types of activity they are qualified to lead, entering their name into the Leaders Register as a Provisional Leader
- The Provisional Leader will be contacted by the Secretary and issued with a copy of Confederation's Leaders Guidelines and the current waiver forms.
- Regardless of the leader's experience, a committee member or person appointed by the committee will attend the Provisional Leader's first 2 walks (minimum) in the role of Leader Support. The Leader support will talk to the Prospective Leader prior to the activity to discuss walk preparation. They will be available for assistance and advice on the walks and will observe whether the Provisional Leader follows the Leaders Guidelines. If the Provisional Leader is inexperienced, the Leader Support will give ongoing help enabling the Provisional Leader to gain experience in a supportive environment until such time as they qualify to become an Accredited Leader.



- A checklist will be used to report to the committee whether or not the Leader Support considers the Provisional Leader competent to be granted full Accredited Leader status in the types of activity specified. The checklist should be shown to the Provisional Leader prior to commencement of the walk/activity.
- The Secretary will contact the Provisional Leader to advise them of their success in becoming a Sydney Christian Bushwalkers Accredited Leader. They will be permitted to lead activities of the type specified.
- The new leader will have their name entered into the Sydney Christian Bushwalkers Leader Register as an Accredited Leader, specifying the types of activity they are competent to lead.
- If the Provisional Leader is unsuccessful, the Leader Support will advise the member how to increase their skill level in order to achieve accreditation in the future
- A Provisional Leader must be accompanied on an activity by a Leader Support person appointed by the Committee(not necessarily the same one each time)
- An Accredited Leader can apply to lead different types of activities as their skill level and experience increases.